

## MEUSE QUARTERS (20 E)

This quarter is accessible only on request and for small groups. Indeed, the vaults of the ground floor have been replaced in the late 19th by two beams: hence, this wing has remained fragile. If you look at it from the road, you will see to what point the facade is no longer plumb.

The four rooms in the Meuse wing were the family quarters until the first oil shock (1973). Thereafter, the family moved to the second floor, where smaller mansard-roofed rooms can be heated more economically.

- 1) In the corridor added in the 19th century, you find some paintings from the school of Gilles Neyts (1618-1687), and oil lamps now fed by electricity.
- 2) Green Room: It was inhabited by Louise d'Avesgo of Coulonges, wife of Theodule of Laubespain. The walls are covered with green printed Jouy cottons representing pastoral themes. In the room, you discover a Louis XIV fireplace, Louis XVI furniture and portraits of members of the family Patin of Langemark (18th).
- 3) The room was previously the study of Louise Avesgo of Coulonges. There are two landscape paintings of the school of Jan Wynants (17th) and Restoration furniture.
- 4) Birds Room : It bears this name from the designs on the wallpaper. It was inhabited by the Theodule Laubespain. Notice the beautiful Louis XV fireplace.
- 5) Ninne's Room : She was the wife of General von Daun and the older sister of the Theodule of Laubespain. Widow and without children, she often spent long times at Freÿr. The mirror above the mantelpiece carries an effigy of Montesquieu (French philosopher, author of the Defence of the Spirit of Laws). The alcove and furniture are Louis XVI, with the exception of a Louis XV writing desk, which was made available by Marie-Joséphine de Yturbe, wife of Axel Bonaert de Laubespain.
- 6) The Library: The Louis XVI mantelpiece was shortened by Camille Laubespain in order to be able to lay his coffee cup on the mantel. His son pulled it up, but with limestone feet, less expensive than marble. You see some family thumbnails (Beaufort-Spontin, Infantado Starhemberg, Levis-Mirepoix, Daun, Laubespain, Contades Scorailles, Montboissier, Coulonges Kergorlay), as well as paintings from the Dutch school (17th).

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